

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
TRI-STATE RADIO PLANNING COMMITTEE
REGIONAL PLANNING UPDATE COMMITTEE

FCC - REGION 8

Paul Einreinhofer, Chairman
Bergen County Police Dept.
327 Ridgewood Avenue
Paramus, New Jersey 07652



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September 9, 2003

Ms Marlene H Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S W
Washington D C 20554

Re *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ET Docket 03-158 / MB Docket 03-159

Dear Ms Dortch

This letter, on behalf of the Region 8 – 800 MHz Regional Planning Update Committee, urges a prompt decision by the Commission in allocating Channel 16 in the New York metropolitan area on a permanent basis to public safety communications. Channel 16 has a critical role in providing wireless communications to law enforcement and other public safety officers in the New York metropolitan area. The Region 8 Planning Committee is the FCC recognized spectrum-planning organization for 821-824/866-869 MHz. As such we are well aware of the extreme spectrum shortage in the metropolitan New York area.

When the Commission authorized on a temporary basis public safety agencies in the New York metropolitan area to conduct public safety communications over broadcast Channel 16, a tremendous relief to our spectrum-impacted area was obtained. In response to a request of the New York City Police Department and other participating agencies using Channel 16, the Commission has proposed to allocate Channel 16 permanently to public safety communications.

The Commission's proposal is clearly in the public interest and will benefit all public safety communication in the New York metropolitan area. It is imperative that Channel 16 is retained for use by public safety in New York. There has been a very large investment in constructing the infrastructure to support Channel 16. All public safety agencies in the New York metropolitan area depend on Channel 16. We who are members of the 821-824/866-869 MHz Planning Committee recognize, probably more than anyone, the need to retain and provide the proper permanent status to Channel 16. The permanent allocation of Channel 16 to public safety communications will make an important difference in ensuring that

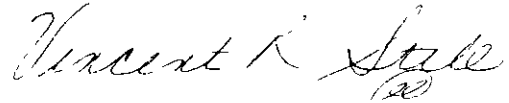
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current and future investment of Channel 16 is protected, as well as providing capacity to the hundreds of other public safety agencies in the New York metro area

We urge the Commission's prompt action in moving its proposal forward

By direction of the Chairman

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Vincent R. Stile". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Vincent R. Stile
Corresponding Secretary
FCC Region 8

VRS/ec

cc Paul Einreinhofer, Chairman RPUC FCC Region 8